

# WHAT'S UP, DACC?

SEPTEMBER 2021



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL

LATEST NEWS FROM OUR  
ANIMAL CARE CENTERS

## Love at First Sight



### LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT ADOPTION PROGRAM

On August 1, DACC began piloting an enhanced adoption program called "Love at First Sight." Members of the public are now able to self-schedule appointments on DACC's website to visit one of the seven animal care centers and see the pets that are ready to go home. Pets are spayed or neutered, behaviorally assessed (if applicable), and have completed holding period for stray animals. Ready to go home pets are available first-come, first-served to the public - no more waiting lists! Potential adopters can visit <https://animalcare.lacounty.gov/all-visits-to-the-animal-care-center-are-by-appointment-only/> to make an appointment.

To introduce the new program to the community, DACC hosted a series of townhalls for volunteers, Adoption Partners, and community members. A recording of the community townhall can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ds0PuJI25FU>.

# DACC Labor of Love 30 Day Celebration



**Adopt a Large Dog or  
Cat for only \$20**

**September 1-30, 2021**

**Includes adoption,  
microchip, vaccination,  
and spay/neuter.**

**Large dogs include  
those 35 lbs. and over.**



**SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO ADOPT AT:**  
[animalcare.lacounty.gov/view-our-animals](https://animalcare.lacounty.gov/view-our-animals)

**SPONSORED BY**  
**ASPCA**

## VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER INFO SESSION

DACC hosted a virtual information session for new volunteers on September 9. We are recruiting for helpers for our dog playgroups and assistants for our on-site and mobile veterinary clinics. Stay tuned for more virtual information sessions and volunteer opportunities!



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*July 2021 was my 20 year anniversary of leading DACC, and as I reflect on all the improvements made over the years I am exceedingly grateful to the staff and volunteers who have worked alongside me to successfully implement these changes. I am also thankful to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for their trust in my leadership and support of our mission.”*

## TWENTY YEARS IN REVIEW – FIRST IN A SERIES

BY DIRECTOR MARCIA MAYEDA

Since 2001, the County and DACC’s supporting nonprofit foundation, the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation, have invested millions of dollars into improving the care center environments. New spay/neuter clinics, cat housing (including new cat cages, cat solariums, exercise pens, portals to double the size of cat cages, and outdoor “catios”), dog play yards for exercise and socialization, new or refurbished dog kennels, new horse barns and livestock housing, improved HVAC systems, and adding our seventh animal care center in Palmdale have all elevated the quality of housing and care for the animals. We have also completed a Facilities Master Plan for the renovation and replacement of our aging animal care centers when funding becomes available.

We have implemented state-of-the-art disinfection protocols, automatic dog waterers, commercial washers and dryers to launder bedding, and commercial dishwashers to properly clean food and water bowls. These all have contributed to a great reduction in disease by providing more sanitary environments and have increased the comfort of the animals.

Our medical team has expanded to 13 veterinarians and 28 registered veterinary technicians to care for about 19,000 animals per year in seven animal care facilities. DACC follows shelter medicine best practices as recommended by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians. All animals receive intake and exit examinations, core vaccines, flea/tick treatment, and preventative and supportive care. We now provide individualized medical treatment for each animal and perform other surgeries, beyond routine spay and neuter, to save animals’ lives.





## PALISADES FIRE

On May 15 mandatory evacuation orders were initiated for the Topanga Canyon area. DACC immediately assisted and began providing safe animal sheltering for those pet owners that were evacuated. DACC housed 43 animals; large animals were housed at Pierce College Equestrian Center and small animals were housed at the Agoura Animal Care Center. After three days, evacuation orders were lifted and all animals were safely returned to their owners.

## ADOPTION STORY

Stephanie adopted Spencer from the Downey Animal Care Center and sent us an update letter written from his perspective. She also came back to donate supplies for the other animals in our care!

Woof (Hello All),

My name is Spencer Iversen and I was previously at the Downey animal care center while I waited for my furever home. In July, I was adopted and let me tell you I could not be happier.

OMG, I live in a big house now where mom and dad let me have free range over the whole house. I was a little scared of the stairs at first, but now I run up and down them faster than mom and dad. Oh, and just before they adopted me, they had all new sod put in the backyard so I can run and play whenever I want to. Sometimes, I go outside and sunbathe. My parents bought me a bed downstairs, a couch for their office upstairs so I can sleep while they work but most importantly, I am allowed to sleep with them at night.

Mom and I laugh when I push on dad and make him sleep at funny angles so I can spread out. Mom just hired a contractor who built, just for me, a huge window seat for the front bay window. It is so exciting now. I can watch all the other dogs walk by with their humans while I relax.

I get to go on car rides all the time but only when mom or dad is staying in the car with me. I am not allowed to stay in the car by myself. Sometimes, I ride shotgun with dad when we go to do curbside pick up or grab mom coffee from the drive thru. Dad calls it "guy time". Dad bought me seatbelts for each of the cars so that I am always safe no matter what car dad takes me in. Mom's boss got me a three-month subscription to BarkBox when I was first adopted and when it ran out, mom continued it. I get toys every month. Dad had to buy me FOUR toy bins to put all over the house because I have so many toys now. Sometimes, I run outside with them and they get a bath on the lawn in the backyard.

Well, that is it. Just wanted to let you all know I was doing great. Thank you for all that you do for the animals in Los Angeles County!







# ANIMAL ADOPTIONS

**2,433** DOGS  
**2,087** CATS  
**521** OTHER ANIMALS

ADOPTED IN MAY, JUNE, JULY &  
AUGUST!

**SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT  
TO ADOPT TODAY!**

**VISIT  
HERE!**

# NEWS

## FIRST E-OPERATIONS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS MANAGER

DACC is pleased to welcome Rachel "Rae" Williams to the DACC team! Rae has recently taken on the new role of E-Operations and Public Programs Manager, overseeing the Adoption Partner program, Communication Centers, and data analysis for DACC.

Rae was most recently the Field and Shelter Operations Manager for Dallas Animal Services. Prior to that, Rae worked for the SPCA of Texas, Animal Medical Center of Cypress, Texas A&M University-Small Animal ICU Teaching Hospital, and the Houston SPCA. Rae is an animal lover and, in her spare time, serves as a constant animal foster caretaker. Welcome, Rae!



## DACC HELPS A MOUNTAIN LION!

On August 11 Officer Aguilar from the Lancaster Animal Care Center had the opportunity to work alongside the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and California Fish and Wildlife to assist with an emergency call. What appeared to be a large cat turned out to be a MOUNTAIN LION in a residential area. Officer Aguilar helped to safely return the tranquilized feline to nature and says, "You never know what is in store for your day while working for the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care & Control!"



## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Want the latest news and stories from around our animal care centers? Follow us on social media at the handles below!



@LACoAnimals



@LACoAnimalCare



@LACoanimals

@FosterAnimalsLACO

Please note *What's Up, DACC?* has shifted to a quarterly newsletter. This allows us time to gather and share the most impactful stories from our animal care centers. Stay tuned for our next issue in November!

FIND AN ANIMAL CARE CENTER NEAR YOU!

### Baldwin Park:

4275 N. Elton Street  
Baldwin Park, CA 91706  
[baldwinpark@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:baldwinpark@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

### Carson/Gardena:

216 W. Victoria Street  
Gardena, CA 90248  
[carson@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:carson@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

### Downey:

11258 S. Garfield Ave.  
Downey, CA 90242  
[downeyctaip@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:downeyctaip@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

### Castaic:

31044 N. Charlie Canyon Rd.  
Castaic, CA 91384  
[castaic@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:castaic@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

### Agoura:

29525 Agoura Road  
Agoura Hills, CA 91303  
[agoura@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:agoura@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

### Lancaster:

5210 W. Avenue I  
Lancaster, CA 93536  
[acclancaster@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:acclancaster@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

### Palmdale:

38550 Sierra Highway  
Palmdale, CA 93550  
[palmdale@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:palmdale@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

### Interested in Fostering?

Click [HERE!](#)

### Licensing Questions?

Call: (562) 345-0400  
Email: [licensing@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:licensing@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

### Interested in Volunteering?

Click [HERE!](#)